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Time and the Earth

by Henry Hicks



TIME AND THE EARTH ~~~~

B y H e n r y H i c k s

The earth is your country place. The time is now and the near future. You are anxious to make good use of both.

The old practice was: "We will go out to the country place some pleasant Saturday in April and have the carpenter, decorator, contractor or nurseryman meet us and they will do our work the next week. We will have our gardener take on extra men to get the ground ready for the trees, clean up the lawn and plant the garden."

Perhaps you belong to this "Spring only" class. The Spring season is short. You have found it impossible to ever do all you have planned.

Possibly you never knew that "if you love a plant you can make it grow any time." We

make gardens all Summer and plant all Winter. We have employed 50 men digging and planting for 80-100 per cent. of the Winter for the past ten years.

Throughout our nursery you will see block signs: "Planted in January, 1918," "Transplanted February, 1919," etc. It rarely freezes deeply on Long Island before the last of January, (1917-18 was the exception). The gravel path may freeze hard and ring under your feet, but it is not so out in the grass. A pick will go right through. On the Mainland, as in Westchester County or Connecticut, it is easy to keep out frost by covering the acres to be planted with six inches of manure, leaves, straw or similar litter. A little earth thrown over will keep this mulch from blowing away. When planting mix the mulch with the soil. It will make good plant food.

It is the aim of this little pamphlet to tell you what you can do THIS WINTER to get the most from your land.

Let us consider first the beauty of evergreens. Look around your vicinity and see if most of the homes would not be benefited by evergreen foliage. It gives color and life. On

windy days how welcome in lee of a group of Pines. We will be glad to help you decide where evergreens can be used. It may be a few are needed in the shrubbery to make it more cheerful in Winter. It is very easy to remove some of the shrubs you do not care for and substitute evergreens. At the same time you may wish to rearrange or thin out your plantings. Your men could not be more profitably employed during the Winter. Our experience is at your disposal if you need it.

In aiming to have your place attractive you will also insist on having it productive. The satisfaction in harvesting your own vegetables, berries or fruit is difficult to describe. More and better fruit calls for careful pruning and spraying. Winter is the time to do this and to plan for more trees or make arrangements for a larger vegetable garden, it may be on vacant land adjacent to your own.

Your lands need fertility. You are anxious to have a thrifty, vigorous garden and landscape. Nothing better for the soil than leaf mold, peat, manure, etc. All these can be gathered and distributed in Winter. We bring leaves in from the woodland by the team load.

In the Spring they are plowed under or dug in around your trees and shrubbery.

Your land needs water, too. The natural supply is sometimes fickle. Very satisfying to be able by turning a handle to give the plants a drink. Pipe lines can be laid in Winter. Drain pipes can also be laid if your land needs draining.

In having these things on your Winter program you are sure to get them done and done better. You equalize the labor burden and you will appreciate the value of this.

You can save 33½ to 50 per cent. on evergreens up to 7 feet. We still have a limited quantity of Pines and Spruce on leased land we are clearing. These Pines, Spruce and Fir trees will most cheaply and quickly make your home ground what you would have them to be—quiet, restful and beautiful. We can arrange to plant if you have no one on the place. If you have men that can help dig in the nursery there is further saving.

We can meet you on your grounds now. Talk over your Winter possibilities and arrange the details.

'Phone us (Westbury 68) and save time.

HICKS NURSERIES
WESTBURY, LONG ISLAND, N. Y.

